

NEWTON YOUTH COMMISSION Meeting

OCTOBER 4, 2006 MINUTES

Location: Newton City Hall Cafeteria

Present: Joe DeVito (chair), Richard Dyer, Donna Gordon, Matt Green, Peter Harrington, Joanne Kazarian, Lisa Langone, Stephanie Pelkowsky, Stephan Ross, Robert Staulo. Students: Brandon Harris, Kipaya Kapiga, Sarah Laski, Kira Mascho

Regrets: Anthony Bibbo, Joanne Kazarian, Terance Sack, Officer Jim O'Loughlin, Katie Sanders

Staff: Beverly Droz, Director Human and Volunteer Services

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes of the September 6, 2006 meeting were accepted.

Kira reported that at the September 28 Back to School night at Newton South High School they had a bake sale and sold bottle water. They raised \$209.02. Bev will deposit the funds into the Youth Commission revolving gift account. The Commission thanked Kira, Katie & Sarah.

Autumn Invasion

Sarah and Brandon have been soliciting businesses for items for the raffle.

Bands lined-up as of this meeting for the date include:

- Searching for Solace
- Newtones
- Wednesday Knights.
- Fury at it finest
- White Picket Phence

Brandon is coordinating the logistics. It will be on the outdoor steps of the War Memorial Auditorium just like last year. Bev will arrange for tables to be borrowed from the Elections Department. Local colleges replied that they couldn't send collage coaches or athletes due to violations of NCA recruitment rules. The Youth Commission received a photo from the Red Sox for the raffle.

Since the vendor fell through food will have to be solicited. Stephanie will contact the Health Department for a permit. Thus far Omni Markets and Buff Pub have donated food. Phone outreach is needed to various businesses to whom we sent solicitation letters for food donations, including: pizza, taco's beverages, and gift cards for miscellaneous items. The students will make most of the calls. We'll need to arrange pick-up accordingly. All will meet October 15 at 11:00 am for set up.

The rain plan is to hold the event inside the War Memorial Auditorium with both the bands and the food.

Publicity for the event: The students are working on flyers and outreach at both High Schools. Bev will send items to the new editor at the TAB and will call the Mayor's office to set up a press conference. Terry will talk to Tom Mountain about an article.

Old Business:

Bev attended the Relationship Violence Action Committee and reminded the group that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. She passed out a flyer about the Clothesline Project and said that there will be several displays about this project in Newton during October.

Drinking & Drugs Booklet:

Bev and Denise met with Lisa Langone to discuss the topics to be included in the Drinking and Drugs Prevention Booklet. The language and topics need to be updated from the one that was made years ago.

The new topics that were suggested were: Prescription Drugs; Driving; Party Giving; Reminder of Legal obligations of parents; Peer Pressure; Harm Reduction; Support groups; Dictionary of terms; Resources; TOOLS for parents.

Bev and Denise are researching information. The goal is to have a draft of the booklet by December for input by the Youth Commission and the Youth Interagency Task Force.

New Business:

Internet Safety - Joe spoke with the PTSO Co-chair of Newton South High School. There are two programs by Rich Catrambone, the school counselor: one for the students and one for the parents. They'll happen October 14, 2006 at Newton South High School.

Chris Fortunato of Teen Reach (part of Newton Community Service Center) runs Internet Safety training and programs, and would be willing to help. The Police Department has programs as well. Bev will check with Lt. O'Loughlin.

Joe will reach out to the middle schools and will report back next meeting. The Youth Commission will work toward providing more educational programs on this matter.

Bev reported that the Newton History Museum has an **Immigration Exhibit** curated by 7 high school students. They welcome any involvement by the Youth Commission.

Bob Stauro reported there will be a **teen event** with bands at a BBQ this Friday night at the Brigham Community House.

Youth Foundation Report:

Joe is emailing articles of organization to the City's Law Department for their review. He'll report more at our next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

The next meeting will be on November 1 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria.